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Research Article

MUNICIPAL (SELF-GOVERNMENT) BODIES AND THEIR ROLE IN THE **DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY**

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ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the scientific and analytical views on municipal governance bodies and their concepts in the development of society. In the coverage of the topic of the article, the world experience and its results, the opinions of world-renowned political scientists are cited as examples.

KEYWORDS

Municipal body, governing function, civil society, Western politics.

INTRODUCTION

While self-government (municipal) bodies functioned as a political organization performing the functions of the lower local government of the state a few centuries ago, by the twentieth century it had undergone a great historical development before becoming an institution of civil society. According to

Western political scientists, the concept of "selfgovernment" is associated with the formation of the independence of civil society from the state. According to the French thinker Alexis de Tocqueville, local self-government is such a political institution that it is a school not only for politicians but for all citizens. The opportunities inherent in this institution

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are so high that it creates the conditions for broad political participation of citizens.1

Self-government bodies are also an invaluable factor in shaping elements of political culture. Ultimately, the activities of these bodies ensure the overall stability and flexibility of the political system. Or, as Tocqueville wrote, "a nation can form a free government without collective institutions, but it cannot have a true spirit of freedom."

Literature review

German scholars associate the author with the Prussian minister Baron von Stein (1757–1831). Stein wrote that local self-government is "an active form of citizens in the management of public affairs." In nineteenth-century sources, the government" was used as a reference to the statesrepublics, the United States, and the cantons of Switzerland. In the United Kingdom, "self-governing bodies" include conciliation courts, advisory courts and parliamentary institutions.

Local self-government (or municipal) is the management of activities of local significance carried out by elected bodies and their administrative apparatus, which represent the powers of the population in this or that administrative-territorial unit.

Municipal government is a relatively decentralized form of government. At the same time, it is an institution of civil society. The main feature of such governing bodies is their relative independence in the conduct of affairs of local significance on the basis of their election and the interests of the population in their territory.

RESEARCH AND RESULTS

Municipal authorities also represent elements of the state organization. However, in most countries, they

do not occupy a higher position than government agencies, because most of the functions of territorial administration are taken from them, and these functions are transferred to the agencies of the government, ministries. Municipal governance is a separate link in the state mechanism, which is functionally integrated into the state administration apparatus. At the same time, it also performs the functions of self-government as an institution of society, as it is a body that represents the interests of the people of its territory.

The theoretical foundations of municipal governance were originally developed by the ideologues of the revolutions in Western Europe, the nature and place of which are related to the ideas of local governments and communities in the election of self-governing bodies. The principle of local government is proportional to the ideas of representative government, which were born as a form of action The absolutism. against feudal concept independence of elected municipal bodies, their independence from the center in directing the work of rural communities and cities, expressed the functions of local self-government at the beginning of a new history, and these bodies began to be interpreted as a link outside the public interest.

During the 19th century, three models of interaction between the center and local self-government bodies were formed (English, French and Prussian). Even today, models based on these established traditions — the Anglo-Saxon, the French (or the model of southern Europe) and the German (or the model of northern Central Europe) — are still alive.

As a result of industrialization processes leading to drastic changes in the economy, the functions of local self-government bodies have also significant changes. As a result, their activities

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expanded significantly and these bodies began to specialize in large areas. Proponents of innovation during this period argued that self-government bodies consisting of small communities could not effectively serve the interests of the population. Attempts at such modernization have also sparked protests from local officials.

During this period, the communal model of selfgovernment began to develop in the United States in addition to France and Italy. The United Kingdom, on the other hand, has taken the path of reducing large, identical units of local self-government. A number of other countries have tried to follow a specific "middle" path, adopting some features of both models.

The peculiarities of the improvement of central government, as well as the process of their modernization have created conditions for the strengthening of specific models of interaction between government at the central, local and other local levels at each stage of development.

Of course, in these processes, the influence of the central government on the lower management system was also strong. Reforms in the modernization of local and self-government bodies have been carried out under the following conditions: a) under the dominance of national governments; b) as a result of attempts to carry out mass actions on the ground (for example, as a wave of widespread protests); c) In the context of mutual solidarity or equality of all political actors, as in the United States, as well as the lack of clearly defined participation of the center.

In the 19th century, the communal model of selfgovernment began to develop in the United States in addition to France and Italy. The United Kingdom, on the other hand, has taken the path of reducing large, identical units of local self-government. A number of other countries have tried to follow a specific "middle" path, adopting some features of both models.

At the same time, elements of civil society began to take shape in the reform process. Well-known scholar D.J. Elaizer expressed the following opinion: "Modern federalism did not appear until civil society became important for Western political life." There is also a view that local self-government itself creates the conditions for the formation of civil society. But at the same time, the values of local self-government in different national countries have also been observed to differ from each other. In particular, the United States has adhered to conflicting values: on the one hand, the values of broad participation, pluralism and representative democracy have developed, and on the other hand, the effectiveness of governance has been emphasized.

CONCLUSION

In the West, the effective organization of the activities of municipal bodies, the transfer of many public administration rights to municipal bodies allows for a systematic analysis and solution of certain problems in the development of society. In addition, the transfer of a number of public service functions directly to local authorities or their agencies without any intermediate levels of government will shift from decentralization to decentralization from perspective of national governments.

In addition, the following requirements were set for local self-government bodies: the ability to meet the needs of citizens; a means of meeting the needs of citizens; legitimacy of leadership in their community; ability to adapt to changes in society; freedom of influence in relation to the specific needs and requirements of their community, taking into account local conditions.

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Thus, the transfer of many powers to the municipal bodies to represent the municipal bodies of the modern state as a real local self-government body creates an opportunity for the practical manifestation of democratic values in the development of society.

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